IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A security system comprising an information management system that manages information and an encryption support system that supports encryption of information in the information management system,

the encryption support system including

an encryption rule storing portion that stores rule information that indicates an encryption rule of the information for each secret level that is a level of wanting to keep information secret,

an encryption data transmitting portion that transmits encryption data that is necessary for encrypting information in accordance with the rule to the information management system,

a process information receiving portion that receives process information that indicates the encryption process performed by the information management system from the information management system,

a monitoring portion that monitors whether or not the encryption of information is performed in accordance with the rule by the information management system on the basis of the process information received from the information management system, and

a warning portion that warns the information management system that was found to encrypt information not in accordance with the rule by the monitoring portion to do encryption of information in accordance with the rule, and

the information management system including

an encryption data receiving portion that receives the encryption data from the encryption support system,

a classification secret level storing portion that stores classification of information managed by the information management system in connection with the secret level for each of the classification,

an encrypting portion that encrypts information managed by the information management system by using the encryption data of the secret level corresponding to the classification of the information received by the encryption data receiving portion,

an information storing portion that stores the information encrypted by the encrypting portion, and

a process information transmitting portion that transmits the process information about the encryption performed by the encrypting portion to the encryption support system.

2.   (ORIGINAL) The security system according to claim 1, wherein the rule information indicates the rule including an encryption system that is used for encryption and a valid term of an encryption key that is used for the encryption,

if a period since the information management system encrypted information until the present time exceeds the valid term relevant to the rule of the secret level corresponding to the classification of the information,

the warning portion warns the information management system,

if the encryption system that is indicated in the rule information is changed,

the encryption data transmitting portion transmits the encryption data for performing encryption with the changed encryption system to the information management system, and

the warning portion warns to perform encryption of information in accordance with the changed encryption system.

3.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The security system according to claim 1, wherein the information management system includes

a classification secret level transmitting portion that transmits classification secret level information that indicates classification of information managed by the information management system and the secret level corresponding to the classification to the encryption support system, and

the monitoring portion performs the monitoring by comparing the process information received from the information management system with the classification secret level information.

4.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The security system according to claim 1, further comprising a valid term managing portion that manages a valid term of a certification for affixing an electronic signature to information, wherein

the monitoring portion monitors whether or not it is necessary to reaffix the electronic signature to the information in accordance with the valid term of the certification, and

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the warning portion warns the information management system for managing the information to reaffix the electronic signature if it is decided that it is necessary to reaffix the electronic signature.

5.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An information management system that manages information and receives support for encrypting information from an encryption support system, comprising:

a receiving portion that receives rule information that indicates an encryption rule of information defined for each secret level that is a level of wanting to keep information secret and encryption data that are necessary for encrypting information in accordance with the rule from the encryption support system;

a classification secret level storing portion that stores classification of information managed by the information management system for each classification in connection with the secret level;

an encrypting portion that encrypts information managed by the information management system by using the encryption data of the secret level corresponding to the classification of the information received by the receiving portion;

an information storing portion that stores the information encrypted by the encrypting portion; and

a process information transmitting portion that transmits process information that indicates the encryption process performed by the encrypting portion to the encryption support system so as to receive a check whether or not the encryption of the information was performed in accordance with the rule.

6.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An encryption support system that encrypts information and supports an information management system that manages information, the encryption support system comprising:

an encryption rule storing portion that stores rule information that indicates an encryption rule of the information for each secret level that is a level of wanting to keep information secret;

a transmitting portion that transmits encryption data that is necessary for encrypting information in accordance with the rule to the information management system;

a receiving portion that receives process information that indicates the encryption process performed by the information management system from the information management system;

a monitoring portion that monitors whether or not the encryption of information is performed in accordance with the rule by the information management system on the basis of the process information received from the information management system; and

a warning portion that warns the information management system that was found to encrypt information not in accordance with the rule by the monitoring portion to do encryption of information in accordance with the rule.

7.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An encryption support system according to claim 6, further comprising a validity monitoring portion that monitors validity of an encryption rule that is used currently in accordance with vulnerability information about vulnerability of security received from a security information providing portion, wherein

the transmitting portion transmits the encryption data for changing the rule appropriately to the information management system if it is decided that the encryption rule that is used currently has little validity.

8.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable storage storing a program product for use in a computer-supporting encryption of information for an information management system that manages information, the computer-program product-causing the computer to execute a process comprising:

transmitting rule information that indicates an encryption rule of the information for each secret level that is a level of wanting to keep information secret and encryption data that is necessary for encrypting information in accordance with the rule to the information management system;

receiving process information that indicates the encryption process performed by the information management system from the information management system;

monitoring whether or not the encryption of information is performed in accordance with the rule by the information management system on the basis of the process information received from the information management system; and

warning the information management system that was found to encrypt information not in accordance with the rule by the monitoring means to do encryption of information in accordance with the rule.

9.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method, comprising:

monitoring whether data is encrypted in accordance with a predetermined encryption rule for a security level; and

producing a warning if the data is not encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule.

10.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method, comprising:

monitoring whether an information management system encrypts data in accordance with an encryption rule associated with a security level of the information management system; and

warning the information management system if the data is not encrypted in accordance with the encryption rule.

11.   (NEW) A security system comprising an information management system that manages and encrypts information and an encryption support system that supports encryption of information performed by the information management system,

the encryption support system comprising:

an encryption rule storing portion that stores rule information that indicates an encryption rule for encrypting information for each encryption rank corresponding to an importance of information under an encryption policy,

an encryption data transmitting portion that transmits encryption data that is necessary for encrypting information in accordance with the encryption rule to the information management system,

a process information receiving portion that receives process information that indicates encryption of information performed by the information management system from the information management system,

a monitoring portion that monitors whether or not the encryption of information is performed in accordance with the encryption rule by the information management system on the basis of the process information received from the information management system, and

a compliance portion that orders the information management system, if found not to encrypt information in accordance with the encryption rule, to encrypt information in accordance with the encryption rule, and

the information management system comprising:

an encryption data receiving portion that receives the encryption data from the encryption support system,

an encryption rank classification storing portion that stores classification of information managed by the information management system in connection with encryption rank for each classification,

an encrypting portion that encrypts information managed by the information management system by using the encryption data on the encryption rank corresponding to classification of the information to be encrypted,

an information storing portion that stores the information encrypted by the encrypting portion, and

a process information transmitting portion that transmits process information that indicates the encryption of the information performed by the encrypting portion to the encryption support system.